

Wallin-05.PCT/US

SN 10/553,101

Schedule B
to the Response in reply
to the Office Action of February 1, 2010

Please amend the disclosure as follows. The paragraph numbers correspond to the disclosure as published by the Patent Office.

[0056] FIGS. 1, 2 and 3 show a prior art panel 1 as depicted in U.S. Pat. No. 6,244,005 with two hollow flange forms 2 modified by the addition of a footing form 3 to provide the present invention. The flange forms 2 are of a sheet material, such as galvanized sheet steel. The flange forms 2 are bent to a "U"-shaped cross-section with the edges 5 of the legs 4 of the "U" embedded into the panel 1 at the time of casting the panel 1. Each flange form 2 has a hollow core 6 which serves as a flange form volume 6.

[0057] A lower footing form 3 is cast in-place along the lower portion of the panel 1 adjacent to the base end of the wall panel 1 and extending across the width of the wall panel 1 to the respective vertical side edges 26 of the wall panel 1. The form 3 is:

- i) attached to and extending laterally away from the wall portion on the flange side of the wall panel 1 so as to remain with the wall portion in such orientation once the footing volume 9 has been filled with binder material,
- ii) positioned beneath and extending laterally from the flange form 2 to provide a footing volume 6 whereby the footing form 3 can be filled with binder material that serves as a footing along the base end of the panel 1,

- iii) upwardly closed for covering and confining such binder material between the footing form 3, the flange side of the wall portion 1 and the supporting surface when the wall panel is installed on such supporting surface,
- iv) open at the ends of the footing form 3 that are adjacent to the respective vertical side edges 26 of the wall panel 1.

The interior of the footing form 3 is open in the downwardly directed direction. The inner volume 9 of the footing form 3 communicates with the flange form volume(s) 6 [.J] to provide continuous, enclosed volumes 9 that serve to contain binder material poured into the footing form 3 through the vertical flange form. When two such preformed wall panels 1 are positioned next to each other along their vertical side edges 26, the adjacent openings at the ends of the enclosing footing form 3 will permit a continuous, interconnected, covered, footing volume 9 to extend between two adjacent wall panels 1 whereby the footing forms 3 can be filled with a continuous volume of binder material that serves as the footing for the building wall.

[0058] An upper trough form 7 is also preferably cast in place on the panel 1, spanning between the flange forms 2 to permit casting of an upper beam. The interiors 6 of the flange forms 2 communicate with the volume 8 of the trough formed by the upper trough form 7. This upper trough form volume 8 is interconnected with the flange form volume 6 to permit the form volumes 6,8,9 to be filled simultaneously with a continuous quantity of binder material, with the upper trough 7 providing a "funnel" action during the on-site casting of a binder material.

[0059] On assembly as a wall panel, coupling bars 10,11 which serve as upper and lower coupling means may be inserted into the interior volumes of the flange form cores 6, protruding to respectively lie within the upper trough volume 8 and to extend

downwardly below the panel into the footing form volume 9. Upper beam horizontal reinforcing bars 13 and footing reinforcing bars 14 may be placed in their respective forms 7,3 and optionally tied to the reinforcing coupling bars 10,11 [f.] by reinforcing couplings 34 seated in and protruding from said wall portion 1 into any one or more of said flange or footing volumes 6, 9 to position and support reinforcing rod placed within said one or more volumes.

[0073] The base 25 is preferably of compacted aggregate or such other material as is required to provide a stable support surface 57 for the footing that is to be cast within the footing form 3. If the wall portions 1 are aligned and true, the footing form 3 will be aligned and true. If the base 25 is slightly off grade, the wall portions 1 can be shimmed into alignment.

[0074] As illustrated in FIGS. 2, 6 and 9, the footing form 3 has an outer bent edge 30 which is directed downwardly to bear against the supporting surface 57 of the base 25 on which the wall panels 1 are positioned. The sheeting material of the footing form 3 is preferably made of an elastically resilient material. The outer edge 30 is preferably constructed, to underlie the bottom edge 31 of the wall portion 1 when the wall panel is freely suspended, as shown in FIG. 2. By this means the outer edge 30 may be caused to bear with a resilient force against the support surface 57 of the base 25 when installed in position, reducing the tendency for the edge 30 to lift when the footing form volume 9 is being filled with binder material.

[0082] The two half-flange forms 19 of the adjacent wall panels may then be joined by an angled strip 43, as by sheet-metal screws or other fastening means, to provide a

vertical cavity 42 [[hat]] that communicates with the upper trough and footing volumes 8,9. By filling this vertical cavity 42 with concrete grout, the corner piece 38 is cast precisely in-place. Coupling means in the form of steel loops 44 or equivalent may be pre-cast into the inner surface of the corner piece 38 to become embedded in the concrete grout placed in the vertical cavity 42 and provide further anchoring for the corner piece 38.

[0089] Alternately, special wall panels 1 may be cast with window openings already present therein. Sheet metal forming may then define an under-window trough which communicates with the interior cavity 6 of the two, adjacent, vertical flange forms 2. Concrete poured into the vertical flange forms 2 will then fill-out this window trough. To prevent overflow during pouring, this sill trough may be capped by a temporary cover, such as a sheet of plywood. The result is a pre-cast opening present in the wall panel 1, with a lower, cast-on-site [[still]] sill which is ready to receive an on-site installed, window frame.